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prohibited, willfully discloses the material in any manner to any person or agency not entitled to receive same.

(b) *Unauthorized maintenance.* Criminal penalties may be imposed against any officer or employee of NACIC who willfully maintains a system of records without meeting the requirements of section (e)(4) of the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a. The Coordinator and the Director of NACIC are authorized independently to conduct such surveys and inspect such records as necessary from time to time to ensure that these requirements are met.

(c) *Unauthorized requests.* Criminal penalties may be imposed upon any person who knowingly and willfully requests or obtains any record concerning an individual from NACIC under false pretenses.

Subpart G—Exemptions

§ 1801.63 Specific exemptions.

Pursuant to authority granted in section (k) of the Privacy Act, the Director, NACIC has determined to exempt from section (d) of the Privacy Act those portions and only those portions of all systems of records maintained by NACIC that would consist of, pertain to, or otherwise reveal information that is:

(a) Classified pursuant to Executive Order 12958 (or successor or prior Order) and thus subject to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(1) and 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(1);

(b) Investigatory in nature and compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than material within the scope of section (j)(2) of the Act; provided however, that if an individual is denied any right, privilege, or benefit to which they are otherwise eligible, as a result of the maintenance of such material, then such material shall be provided to that individual except to the extent that the disclosure would reveal the identity of a source who furnished the information to the United States Government under an express promise of confidentiality, or, prior to the effective date of this section, under an implied promise of confidentiality;

(c) Maintained in connection with providing protective services to the

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President of the United States or other individuals pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3056;

(d) Required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(e) Investigatory in nature and compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for federal civilian employment, military service, federal contracts, or access to classified information, but only to the extent that the disclosure of such material would reveal the identity of a source who furnished information to the United States Government under an express promise of confidentiality, or, prior to the effective date of this section, under an implied promise of confidentiality;

(f) Testing or examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the federal service the disclosure of which would compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process; or

(g) Evaluation material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, but only to the extent that the disclosure of such material would reveal the identity of a source who furnished information to the United States Government under an express promise of confidentiality, or, prior to the effective date of this section, under an implied promise of confidentiality.

PART 1802—CHALLENGES TO CLASSIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS BY AUTHORIZED HOLDERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 1.9 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 12958

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AUTHORITY: Executive Order 12958, 60 FR 19825, 3 CFR 1996 Comp., p. 333-356 (or successor Orders).

SOURCE: 64 FR 49889, Sept. 14, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 1802.1 Authority and purpose.

(a) *Authority.* This part is issued under the authority of and in order to implement §1.9 of Executive Order (E.O.) 12958 and section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947.

(b) *Purpose.* This part prescribes procedures for authorized holders of information classified under the various provisions of E.O. 12958, or predecessor Orders, to seek a review or otherwise challenge the classified status of information to further the interests of the United States Government. This part and §1.9 of E.O. 12958 confer no rights upon members of the general public, or authorized holders acting in their personal capacity, both of whom shall continue to request reviews of classification under the mandatory declassification review provisions set forth at §3.6 of E.O. 12958.

§ 1802.2 Definitions.

For purposes of this part, the following terms have the meanings as indicated:

NACIC means the United States National Counterintelligence Center acting through the NACIC Information and Privacy Coordinator;

Authorized holders means any member of any United States executive department, military department, the Congress, or the judiciary (Article III) who holds a security clearance from or has been specifically authorized by NACIC to possess and use on official business

classified information, or otherwise has Constitutional authority pursuant to their office;

Days means calendar days when NACIC is operating and specifically excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays. Three (3) days may be added to any requirement of this part if responding by U.S. domestic mail; ten (10) days may be added if responding by international mail;

Challenge means a request in the individual's official, not personal, capacity and in furtherance of the interests of the United States;

Control means ownership or the authority of NACIC pursuant to federal statute or privilege to regulate official or public access to records;

Coordinator means the NACIC Information and Privacy Coordinator acting in the capacity of the Director of NACIC;

Information means any knowledge that can be communicated or documentary material, regardless of its physical form, that is:

(1) Owned by, produced by or for, or under the control of the United States Government, and

(2) Lawfully and actually in the possession of an authorized holder and for which ownership and control has not been relinquished by NACIC;

Interested party means any official in the executive, military, congressional, or judicial branches of government, United States or foreign, or U.S. Government contractor who, in the sole discretion of NACIC, has a subject matter or physical interest in the documents or information at issue;

Originator means the NACIC officer who originated the information at issue, or successor in office, or a NACIC officer who has been delegated declassification authority for the information at issue in accordance with the provisions of this Order;

This Order means Executive Order 12958 of April 17, 1995, or successor Orders.

§ 1802.3 Contact for general information and requests.

For information on this part or to file a challenge under this part, please direct your inquiry to the Director, National Counterintelligence Center,

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Washington, DC 20505. The commercial (non-secure) telephone is (703) 874-4117; the classified (secure) telephone for voice and facsimile is (703) 874-5829.

§ 1802.4 Suggestions and complaints.

NACIC welcomes suggestions or complaints with regard to its administration of the Executive Order. Letters of suggestion or complaint should identify the specific purpose and the issues for consideration. NACIC will respond to all substantive communications and take such actions as determined feasible and appropriate.

Subpart B—Filing Of Challenges

§ 1802.11 Prerequisites.

Prior to reliance on this part, authorized holders are required to first exhaust such established administrative procedures for the review of classified information. Further information on these procedures is available from the point of contact, § 1802.3.

§ 1802.12 Requirements as to form.

The challenge shall include identification of the challenger by full name and title of position, verification of security clearance or other basis of authority, and an identification of the documents or portions of documents or information at issue. The challenge shall also, in detailed and factual terms, identify and describe the reasons why it is believed that the information is not protected by one or more of the § 1.5 provisions, that the release of the information would not cause damage to the national security, or that the information should be declassified due to the passage of time. The challenge must be properly classified; in this regard, until the challenge is decided, the authorized holder must treat the challenge, the information being challenged, and any related or explanatory information as classified at the same level as the current classification of the information in dispute.

§ 1802.13 Identification of material at issue.

Authorized holders shall append the documents at issue and clearly mark those portions subject to the challenge. If information not in documentary

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form is in issue, the challenge shall state so clearly and present or otherwise refer with specificity to that information in the body of the challenge.

§ 1802.14 Transmission.

Authorized holders must direct challenge requests to NACIC as specified in § 1802.3. The classified nature of the challenge, as well as the appended documents, require that the holder transmit same in full accordance with established security procedures. In general, registered U.S. mail is approved for SECRET, non-compartmented material; higher classifications require use of approved Top Secret facsimile machines or NACIC-approved couriers. Further information is available from NACIC as well as corporate or other federal agency security departments.

Subpart C—Action On Challenges

§ 1802.21 Receipt, recording, and tasking.

The Coordinator shall within ten (10) days record each challenge received under this part, acknowledge receipt to the authorized holder, and task the originator and other interested parties. Additional taskings, as required during the review process, shall be accomplished within five (5) days of notification.

§ 1802.22 Challenges barred by res judicata.

The Coordinator shall respond on behalf of the Director, NACIC and deny any challenge where the information in question has been the subject of a classification review within the previous two (2) years or is the subject of pending litigation in the federal courts.

§ 1802.23 Response by originator(s) and/or any interested party.

(a) *In general.* The originator of the classified information (document) is a required party to any challenge; other interested parties may become involved through the request of the Director, NACIC or the originator when it is determined that some or all of the information is also within their official cognizance.

(b) *Determination.* These parties shall respond in writing to the Director,

NACIC with a mandatory unclassified finding, to the greatest extent possible, and an optional classified addendum. This finding shall agree to a declassification or, in specific and factual terms, explain the basis for continued classification including identification of the category of information, the harm to national security which could be expected to result from disclosure, and, if older than ten (10) years, the basis for the extension of classification time under §§1.6 and 3.4 of this Order. These parties shall also provide a statement as to whether or not there is any other statutory, common law, or Constitutional basis for withholding as required by §6.1(c) of this Order.

(c) *Time.* The determination(s) shall be provided on a first in, first out basis with respect to all challenges pending under this section and shall be accomplished expeditiously taking into account the requirements of the authorized holder as well as the business requirements of the originator including their responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, or the mandatory declassification review provisions of this Order.

§ 1802.24 Designation of authority to hear challenges.

The Director, NACIC is the NACIC authority to hear and decide challenges under this part.

§ 1802.25 Action on challenge.

Action by Coordinator. The Coordinator shall provide a summation memorandum for consideration of the Director, NACIC; the complete package consisting of the challenge, the information at issue, and the findings of the originator and interested parties shall also be provided. The Director, NACIC shall personally decide each case; no personal appearances shall be permitted without the express permission of the Director, NACIC.

§ 1802.26 Notification of decision and prohibition on adverse action.

The Coordinator shall communicate the decision of NACIC to the authorized holder, the originator, and other interested parties within ten (10) days of the decision by the Coordinator. That correspondence shall include a

notice that no adverse action or retribution can be taken in regard to the challenge and that an appeal of the decision may be made to the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP) established pursuant to §5.4 of this Order.

Subpart D—Right of Appeal

§ 1802.31 Right of appeal.

A right of appeal is available to the ISCAP established pursuant to §5.4 of this Order. Action by that body will be the subject of rules to be promulgated by the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO).

PART 1803—PUBLIC REQUESTS FOR MANDATORY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.6 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 12958

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Subpart C—NACIC Action on MDR Requests

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